

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application  
PCT/EP99/07475 filed October 6, 1999**

At page 4, between lines 11 and 12 thereof, please add the following new section heading:

**--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--**

At page 9, between lines 1 and 2, please add the following new paragraph:

**--What is claimed is:--**

On a separate, new page 11, following page 10, please add the following new section heading and paragraph containing an Abstract of the Disclosure:

**--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Lubrication of wool fibers for combed wool sliver production, via contacting of the wool fibers with a lubrication composition including a mixture of C<sub>6-22</sub> fatty acid methyl esters based on fatty acids selected from the group consisting of coconut fatty acids, palm kernel fatty acids, palm oil fatty acids, and mixtures thereof, is disclosed.--

**In the Claims:**

Please add new claims 11-28, as follows:

--11. (New) A process for lubricating wool for combed wool sliver production, said process comprising:

- (a) providing wool fiber to be lubricated;
- (b) providing a lubricant composition comprising a mixture of C<sub>6-22</sub> fatty acid methyl esters based on fatty acids selected from the group consisting of coconut fatty acids, palm kernel fatty acids, palm oil fatty acids, and mixtures thereof; and
- (c) contacting the wool fiber with the lubricant composition.--

--12. (New) The process according to claim 11, wherein the lubricant composition comprises from 50 to 95% by weight of the mixture of C<sub>6-22</sub> fatty acid methyl